

VENTURA
SUPERIOR COURT
FILED

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8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **COUNTY OF VENTURA**

10 **ROGER BARR, individually and on behalf of**
11 **all others similarly situated,**

Plaintiff,

12 **vs.**

13 **SELECTBLINDS LLC,**

14 *Defendant.*

Case No. 56-2022-00570596-CU-BT-VTA

Class Action Complaint

1. False Advertising Law
2. Unfair Competition Law
3. Consumer Legal Remedies Act

Jury Trial Demanded

General Jurisdiction – Civil

By Fax

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1 **I. Introduction.**

2 1. Advertised “sale” prices are important to consumers. Consumers are more likely
3 to purchase an item if they know that they are getting a good deal. Further, if consumers think
4 that a sale will end soon, they are likely to buy now, rather than wait, comparison shop, and buy
5 something else.

6 2. While there is nothing wrong with a legitimate sale, a fake one—that is, one with
7 made-up regular prices, made-up discounts, and made-up expirations—is deceptive and illegal.

8 3. As the Federal Trade Commission advises in its *Guides Against Deceptive*
9 *Pricing*, it is deceptive to make up an “an artificial, inflated price ... for the purpose of enabling
10 the subsequent offer of a large reduction” off that price. 16 C.F.R. §233.1. So, fake sales violate
11 California’s general prohibition on unfair and deceptive business practices. *See* Cal. Bus. &
12 Prof. Code § 17200.

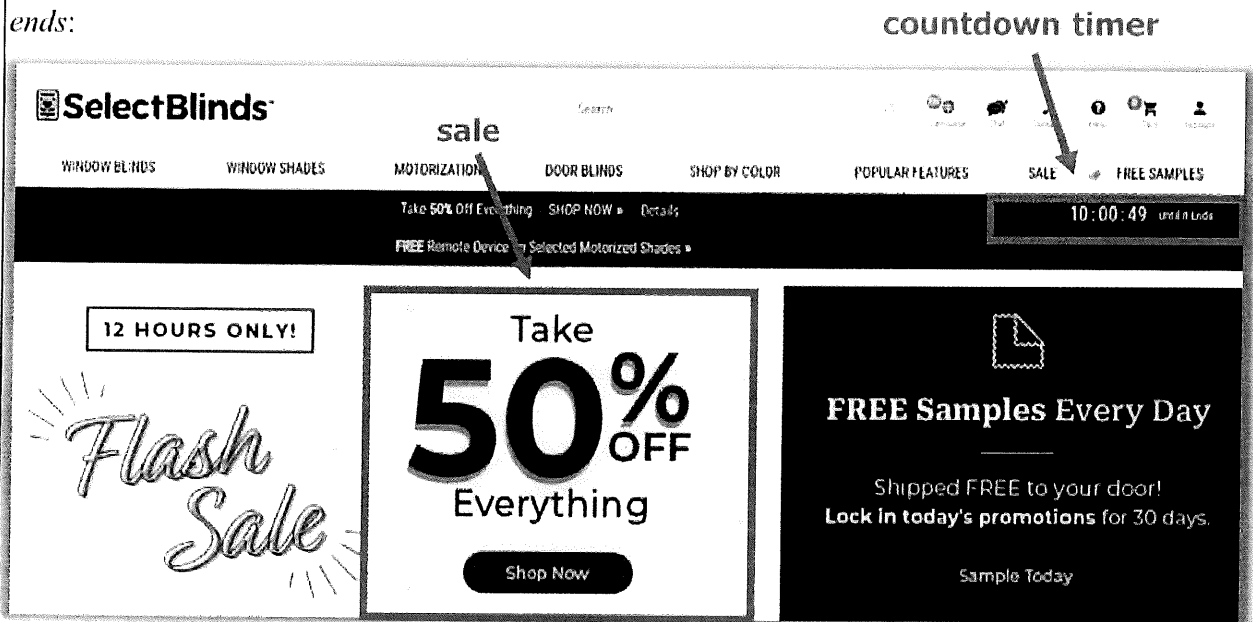
13 4. Moreover, California’s False Advertising Law specifically prohibits “false or
14 misleading statements of fact concerning reasons for, existence of, or amounts of price
15 reductions.” *E.g.*, Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(13).

16 5. Likewise, California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act provides that “No price
17 shall be advertised as a former price ... unless the alleged former price was the prevailing market
18 price ... within three months next immediately preceding” the advertising. Cal. Bus. & Prof.
19 Code §17501.

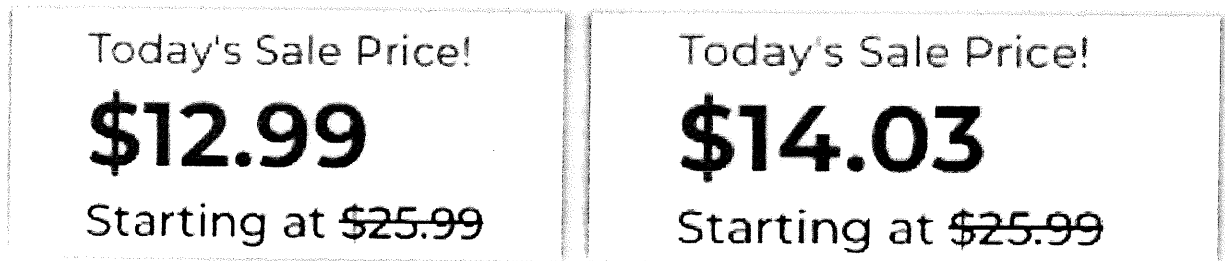
20 6. Defendant makes, sells, and markets window and door coverings (the
21 “SelectBlinds Products” or “Products”). The Products are sold online through Defendant’s
22 website, SelectBlinds.com.

23 7. Defendant prominently advertises sales on its website. Those sales include
24 sitewide percentages off (for example 50% off sitewide, meaning all products sold on
25 Defendant’s website are 50% off). They also include countdown timers indicating that the sale
26 will end soon:
27
28

Defendant's sale, with a countdown clock listing when the sale ends:



Purported regular prices, and associated discounts:



8. Everything about these advertisements is false. The sales Defendant advertises are not limited-time events where the Products are marked down from their regular retail prices. SelectBlinds' products do not ever retail at the supposed regular prices it lists. They always retail at a much lower price, at least 30% less. And when the countdown timer ends, the sales do not end. Instead, they are immediately replaced by a different sale offering comparable amounts off—always more than 30% off, and are typically close to 50%. And the countdown timer is reset and begins counting down again.

9. Mr. Barr bought blinds from SelectBlinds. Like SelectBlinds' other customers, when Mr. Barr bought the blinds, SelectBlinds advertised that a purported sale was going on and would end when a displayed countdown expired. Mr. Barr believed that the SelectBlinds Products that he purchased retailed for the displayed regular price. He further believed that he

1 was getting a substantial discount from the regular price, and that the sale would end soon.
2 These reasonable beliefs are what caused him to buy from SelectBlinds. If the products he
3 purchased weren't on sale, he would not have bought them.

4 10. But none of what Mr. Barr reasonably believed was true. SelectBlinds' published
5 regular prices were fake; the products Mr. Barr bought were not actually sold at those prices.
6 Mr. Barr did not receive the discount that was listed. Had SelectBlinds been truthful, Plaintiff
7 and other consumers would not have purchased the products or would have paid less for them.

8 11. Plaintiff brings this case for himself and the other consumers who purchased
9 Defendant's Products.

10 **II. Parties.**

11 12. Plaintiff Roger Barr is domiciled in Camarillo, California.

12 13. The proposed class includes citizens of every state.

13 14. On information and belief, Defendant SelectBlinds LLC is a Delaware LLC with
14 its principal place of business in Arizona.

15 **III. Jurisdiction and Venue.**

16 15. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant does
17 business here. Defendant sold the SelectBlinds Products to consumers in California, including to
18 Plaintiff. Defendant derives substantial revenue from sales of its products in this State, and
19 markets and sells its products for use in this State.

20 16. The amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs,
21 and the matter is a class action.

22 17. Venue is proper because Defendant does business in California, and sells
23 SelectBlinds Products to consumers in California and a substantial part of Defendant's conduct
24 giving rise to the claims occurred in this District, including Plaintiff's purchases of the
25 SelectBlinds Products.

IV. Facts.

A. SelectBlinds' fake sales and discounts.

18. SelectBlinds makes, sells, and markets window and door blinds and shades. SelectBlinds sells its products directly to consumers online, through its website, SelectBlinds.com.

19. SelectBlinds' website creates an illusion that customers are receiving a limited-time discount. SelectBlinds does this by advertising fake limited-time sales, fake regular prices, and fake discounts based on the fake regular prices.

Fake limited-time sales:

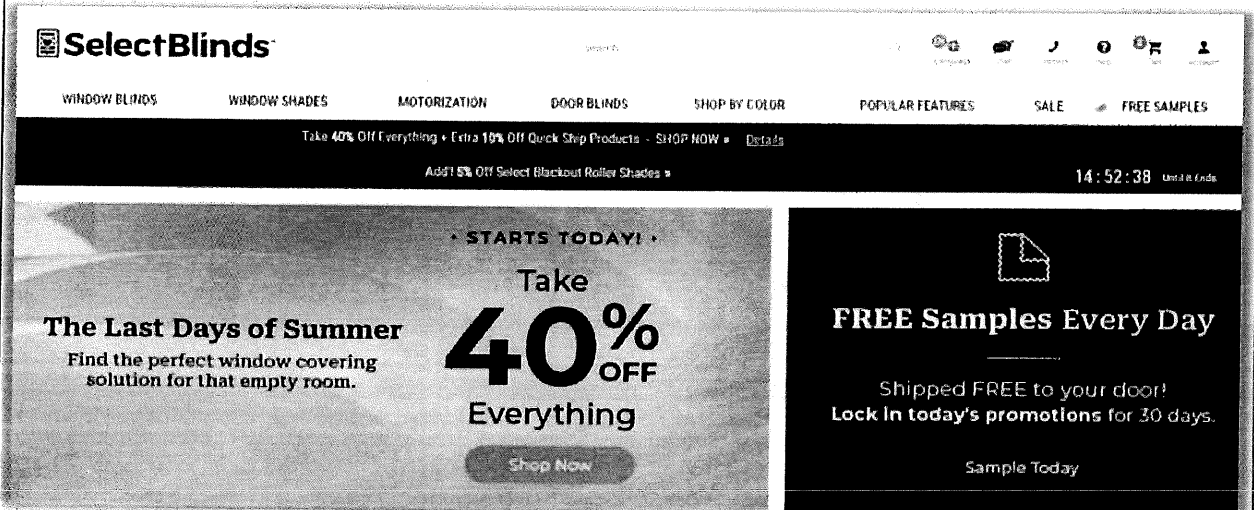
20. SelectBlinds' website persistently represents that a sale is on the verge of ending. For example, on September 15, 2022, SelectBlinds advertised a sale on its website.



Captured September 15, 2022

21. The sale prominently featured a timer, which said that the sale would end at midnight.

22. But at midnight, the sale did not end. Instead, another sale began the next day, with a different name but a comparable discount, with an updated timer stating that the sale would expire at midnight the next day:



Captured September 16, 2022.

23. SelectBlinds' sales have persisted over a year, never ending. For example:



Captured July 18, 2022.

SelectBlinds
Simple. Smart. Custom.

WINDOW BLINDS WINDOW SHADES MOTORIZATION DOOR BLINDS SHOP BY COLOR POPULAR FEATURES SALE FREE SAMPLES

Take 35% Off All Products + An Extra 10% Off Everything! - SHOP NOW - Details

13:24:53 ends in 1 day

Take an Add'l 5% Off All Roller Shades!! - SHOP - Use Code ROLLS

DAY 1
We're Turning 19 !!
Help us celebrate our birthday month with amazing daily deals.

ENDS TODAY!
Take **35% OFF** All Products + **10% OFF** Everything
Shop Now

FREE SAMPLES Every Day
Shipped FREE to your door!
Lock in today's promotions for 30 days.

Captured August 1, 2022.

SelectBlinds
Simple. Smart. Custom.

WINDOW BLINDS WINDOW SHADES MOTORIZATION DOOR BLINDS SHOP BY COLOR POPULAR FEATURES SALE FREE SAMPLES

Take 45% Off Everything + FREE Shipping Nationwide - SHOP NOW - Details

Take an Add'l 5% Off Motorized Sheer Weave Solar - SHOP -

LABOR DAY SALE
LIMITED TIME ONLY!

TAKE 45% OFF EVERYTHING
Shop Now

Take an Add'l **5% OFF** Motorized Sheer Weave Solar
DEAL of the DAY
Shop Product

FREE SAMPLES Every Day Shipped FREE to your door! Lock in today's promotions for 30 days.

Captured August 15, 2022.

SelectBlinds
Simple. Smart. Custom.

WINDOW BLINDS WINDOW SHADES MOTORIZATION DOOR BLINDS SHOP BY COLOR POPULAR FEATURES SALE FREE SAMPLES

Take 35% Off All Products + FREE Shipping Nationwide - SHOP NOW - Details

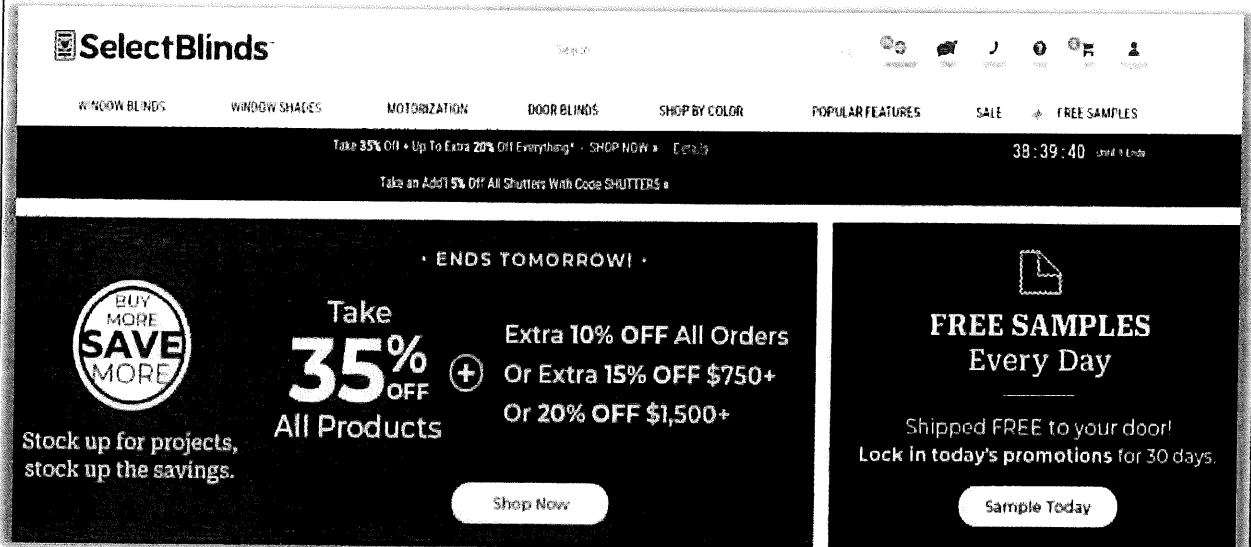
Take an Extra 10% Off Our Most Popular Cellular Shades - SHOP -

Celebration Extended!! **19**

ENDS TODAY!
Take **35% OFF** All Products + **Extra 10% OFF** Our Most Popular Cellular Shades
Shop Now **Shop Honeycomb**

FREE SAMPLES Every Day Shipped FREE to your door! Lock in today's promotions for 30 days.

Captured September 1, 2022.



Captured September 26, 2022.

24. This same deception has gone on throughout the entire applicable statute of limitations period.

25. SelectBlinds' website persistently misleads consumers into believing that items are on sale, when in fact they are not. It also persistently misleads consumers into believing that the supposed sale prices are available only for a limited time, when in fact the sales never end.

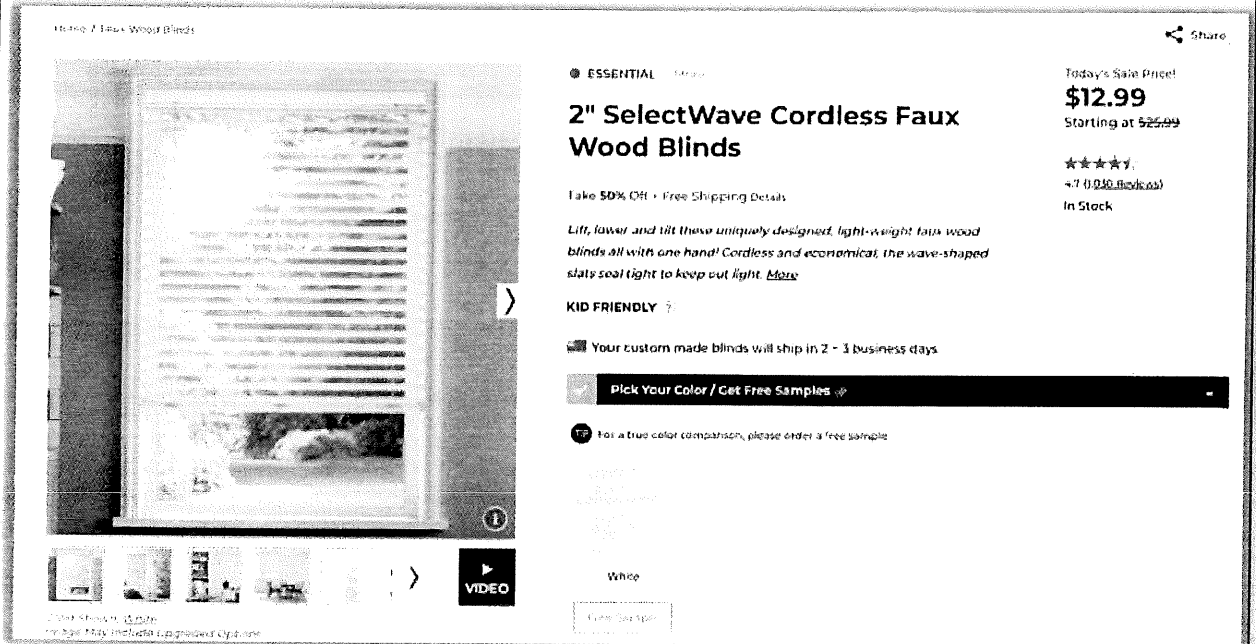
Fake regular prices and fake discounts:

26. SelectBlinds' website also lists fake regular prices and fake discounts. For example, on September 15, 2022, SelectBlinds' website advertised a sale:



27. The sale was advertised as ending at midnight that day.

28. As part of this sale, SelectBlinds represented to consumers who purchased the 2" SelectWave Cordless Faux Wood Blinds that they would be receiving a discount from a regular price of \$25.99.



2" SelectWave Cordless Faux Wood Blinds

Take 50% Off + Free Shipping Details

Lift, lower and tilt these uniquely designed, light-weight faux wood blinds all with one hand! Cordless and economical, the wave-shaped slats seal tight to keep out light. [More](#)

KID FRIENDLY

Your custom made blinds will ship in 2 - 3 business days

Pick Your Color / Get Free Samples

For a true color comparison, please order a free sample

White

Color shown: 1,076
Sample May include upgraded options

VIDEO

MSRP: \$25.99

50% Off! -\$13.00

Shipping: FREE

Your Price: \$12.99


Qty 1

ADD TO CART

29. SelectBlinds represented that a customer who purchased the blinds would receive 50% off, or \$13.00 off:

ORDER SUMMARY	
Subtotal	\$25.99
Take 40% Off	-\$10.40
Extra 10% Off	-\$1.56
Shipping	FREE
Warranty	FREE
Handling ?	\$5.95
TOTAL	\$19.98

PLACE ORDER

	QTY 1	\$14.03
	2" SelectWave Cordless Faux Wood Blinds	

30. But the truth is, the blinds are not regularly priced at \$25.99. Instead, the blinds are always sold at a much lower price—at least 30% less.

31. For example, the very next day—when the sale should have already expired—the same blinds were again available on sale at a comparable amount off (40% + 10% off):

ORDER SUMMARY	
Subtotal	\$25.99
50% Off!	-\$13.00
Shipping	FREE
Warranty	FREE
Handling ⓘ	\$5.95
TOTAL	\$18.94

PLACE ORDER



QTY 1 \$12.99

2" SelectWave Cordless Faux
Wood Blinds

REVIEW ORDER DETAILS

« EDIT ORDER

32. This cycle never ends: the Products are always advertised as on sale (at a purported discounted price) for a limited time. The sale is always at least 30%, and is usually close to 50%.

33. Reasonable consumers do not realize the fake nature of the sale. It is not apparent from merely purchasing the product, because the sale appears to be a bona fide sale. Consumers do not have any reason to go back to the site day after day and discover that there is a sale. And, even a consumer who occasionally checked the website would reasonably believe that there happened to be another sale. Discovering SelectBlinds' deception required extensive mining of internet archives, which revealed that the sale is not limited in time, that the discounts are fake, and that the advertised regular prices are fake.

34. By listing fake regular prices and fake discounts, SelectBlinds misleads consumers into believing that they are getting a good deal.

1 **B. SelectBlinds' advertisements violate California law.**

2 35. As the Federal Trade Commission states in its *Guides Against Deceptive Pricing*,
3 “where an artificial, inflated price was established for the purpose of enabling the subsequent
4 offer of a large reduction - the ‘bargain’ being advertised is a false one.” 16 C.F.R. § 233.1.
5 Advertising such false “bargains” is false, misleading, and unfair. Accordingly, it violates
6 California’s Unfair Competition law, which bans unlawful, unfair or fraudulent” business acts
7 and practices. *See* Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.

8 36. In addition, California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act, specifically prohibits
9 “[m]aking false or misleading statements of fact concerning reasons for, existence of, or amounts
10 of, price reductions.” Cal. Civ. Code §1770(1)(13). SelectBlinds’ advertisements make false
11 statements regarding the reasons for the sale (e.g., “Labor Day Sale,” when in fact the sale is
12 ongoing and not limited to Labor Day). SelectBlinds’ advertisements also make false statements
13 about the existence of the sale, and the amounts of price reductions.

14 37. Further, under California law, “No price shall be advertised as a former price ...
15 unless the alleged former price was the prevailing market price ... within three months next
16 immediately preceding”). Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §17501. As described in further detail above,
17 SelectBlinds advertises its products using former prices that were not the prevailing market
18 prices within the preceding three months.

19 38. So not only are SelectBlinds’ business practices generally deceptive and
20 fraudulent and therefore banned—they are also specifically prohibited by statute.

21 **C. SelectBlinds' advertisements harm consumers.**

22 39. Based on SelectBlinds’ advertisements, reasonable consumers would expect that
23 the listed regular prices are prices that SelectBlinds actually sells its products for. Reasonable
24 consumers would also expect that, if they purchase during the sale, they will receive a discount
25 from the regular purchase price.

26 40. In addition, consumers are more likely to buy the product if they believe that the
27 product is on sale and that they are getting a substantial discount.
28

1 41. Consumers that are presented with discounts are substantially more likely to make
 2 the purchase. “Nearly two-thirds of consumers surveyed admitted that a promotion or a coupon
 3 often closes the deal, if they are wavering or are undecided on making a purchase.”¹ And, “two-
 4 thirds of consumers have made a purchase they weren't originally planning to make solely based
 5 on finding a coupon or discount,” and “80% [of consumers] said they feel encouraged to make a
 6 first-time purchase with a brand that is new to them if they found an offer or discount.”²

7 42. Similarly, when consumers believe that an offer is expiring soon, the sense of
 8 urgency makes them more likely to buy a product.³

9 43. Thus, SelectBlinds’ advertisements harm consumers by inducing them to make
 10 purchases based on false information.

11 **D. Plaintiff was misled by Defendant’s misrepresentations.**

12 44. On January 21, 2019, Mr. Barr bought 2” SelectWave Cordless Faux Wood
 13 Blinds and 1” Signature Aluminum blinds from SelectBlinds’ website while living in Camarillo,
 14 California. The products were prominently advertised as being on sale—50% off—for a limited
 15 time. SelectBlinds’ website also published a regular price for the products that Mr. Barr ordered,
 16 and a discounted price. Mr. Barr’s invoice also represented that he was receiving a substantial
 17 discount for the items that he ordered.

18 45. Mr. Barr read and relied on the representations on the website that the products
 19 had the published regular price, and that he was receiving a discount as compared to the regular
 20 price. He would not have purchased the product, or would have paid less for the product, if he
 21 knew that they were not on sale, and that he was not receiving the promised discount.

22 46. At the time that Mr. Barr purchased the blinds, he did not know that SelectBlinds’
 23 sale was not real, that the discount was fake, and that the sale was not ending soon. Nor did he
 24

25 ¹ <https://www.invespcro.com/blog/how-discounts-affect-online-consumer-buying-behavior/>.

26 ² [RetailMeNot Survey: Deals and Promotional Offers Drive Incremental Purchases Online, Especially Among Millennial Buyers \(prnewswire.com\)](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/retailmenot-survey-deals-and-promotional-offers-drive-incremental-purchases-online-especially-among-millennial-buyers-301088888.html).

27 ³ <https://cxl.com/blog/creating-urgency/> (addition of a countdown timer increased
 28 conversion rates from 3.4%-10%); [Dynamic email content leads to 400% increase in conversions for Black Friday email | Adestra \(uplandsoftware.com\)](https://www.adestra.com/blog/black-friday-email/) (400% higher conversation rate for ad with countdown timer).

1 have any reason to suspect that the sale was fake when he purchased the blinds. Plaintiff did not
 2 discover Defendant's deception until September, 2022, when he learned that SelectBlinds' blinds
 3 are always discounted, and that, as a result, he did not receive the sale he was promised.

4 **E. SelectBlinds breached its contract.**

5 47. When Mr. Barr purchased and paid for the SelectBlinds Products that he bought,
 6 he accepted an offer that SelectBlinds made, and thus, a contract was formed. The offer was to
 7 provide blinds having a regular price of \$161.87, and to provide a discount of 50% off the
 8 regular price of those blinds.

9 48. Mr. Barr and SelectBlinds entered a contract. The contract was memorialized in
 10 SelectBlinds' order confirmation. The order confirmation lists the market value of the items that
 11 SelectBlinds promised to provide, and also specified the dollar amount of the discount off the
 12 regular price that SelectBlinds promised to provide Mr. Barr.

13 49. The market value of the blinds Mr. Barr would receive, and the amount of the
 14 discount that he would be provided off the regular price of those items, were specific and
 15 material terms of the contract.

16 50. SelectBlinds breached its contracts by failing to provide Mr. Barr with products
 17 with a market value equal to the regular price displayed on its website, and by failing to provide
 18 the discount promised.

19 **V. Class Action Allegations.**

20 51. Plaintiff brings the asserted claims on behalf of the proposed class of:

- 21 • Nationwide Class: all persons who, within the applicable statute of limitations
 22 period, purchased one or more SelectBlinds Products advertised at a discount on
 23 SelectBlinds' website.
- 24 • California subclass: all persons who, while in the state of California and within
 25 the applicable statute of limitations period, purchased one or more SelectBlinds
 26 Products advertised at a discount on SelectBlinds' website.

27 52. The following people are excluded from the Class and the subclass: (1) any Judge
 28 or Magistrate Judge presiding over this action and the members of their family; (2) Defendant,

1 Defendant's subsidiaries, parents, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which the
2 Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest and their current employees, officers and
3 directors; (3) persons who properly execute and file a timely request for exclusion from the
4 Class; (4) persons whose claims in this matter have been finally adjudicated on the merits or
5 otherwise released; (5) Plaintiff's counsel and Defendant's counsel, and their experts and
6 consultants; and (6) the legal representatives, successors, and assigns of any such excluded
7 persons.

8 ***Numerosity***

9 53. The proposed class contains members so numerous that separate joinder of each
10 member of the class is impractical.

11 54. It is estimated that there are hundreds of thousands of proposed class members or
12 more.

13 ***Commonality***

14 55. There are questions of law and fact common to the proposed class. Common
15 questions of law and fact include, without limitation:

- 16 (1) whether SelectBlinds made false or misleading statements of fact in its
17 advertisements;
- 18 (2) whether Defendant violated state consumer protection statutes;
- 19 (3) whether Defendant committed a breach of contract;
- 20 (4) whether Defendant committed a breach of an express or implied warranty;
- 21 (5) Damages needed to reasonably compensate Plaintiff and the proposed class.
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28

1 ***Typicality***

2 56. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the proposed class. Like the proposed class,
3 Plaintiff purchased the SelectBlinds Products.

4 ***Predominance and Superiority***

5 57. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the proposed class
6 would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication with respect to individual members,
7 which would establish incompatible standards for the parties opposing the class. For example,
8 individual adjudication would create a risk that breach of the same express warranty is found for
9 some proposed class members, but not others.

10 58. Common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions affecting only
11 individual members of the proposed class. These common legal and factual questions arise from
12 central issues which do not vary from class member to class member, and which may be
13 determined without reference to the individual circumstances of any particular class member.

14 59. For example, a core liability question is common: whether Defendant's use of
15 false regular prices and discounts is false and misleading.

16 60. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient
17 adjudication of this litigation because individual litigation of each claim is impractical. It would
18 be unduly burdensome to have individual litigation of millions of individual claims in separate
19 lawsuits, every one of which would present the issues presented in this lawsuit.

20 **VI. Causes of Action.**

21 **First Cause of Action:**

22 **Violation of California's False Advertising Law**

23 **(by Plaintiff and the California subclass)**

24 ***Section 17501 et. seq.***

25 61. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

26 62. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of the
27 California subclass.

28 63. Defendant has violated Section 17501 of the Business and Professions Code.

1 64. As alleged more fully above, Defendant advertises former prices on its website by
2 using words and phrases such as “Unit Price,” and/or displaying discounts using words and
3 phrases such as “Discount” or “Today’s Sale Price.”

4 65. The former prices advertised by Defendant were not the prevailing market prices
5 for the products within three months preceding publication of the advertisement.

6 66. Defendant’s former price advertisements do not state clearly, exactly, and
7 conspicuously when, if ever, the former prices prevailed. SelectBlinds’ advertisements do not
8 indicate whether or when the purported former prices were offered at all.

9 67. Defendant violated, and continues to violate, Section 17501 to induce Plaintiff
10 and the California subclass to make purchases on its website based on the advertised former
11 prices.

12 68. Defendant’s misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff
13 saw, read and reasonably relied on the statements when purchasing SelectBlinds Products.
14 Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff’s purchase decision.

15 69. In addition, class-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendant’s
16 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in
17 deciding whether to buy the SelectBlinds Products.

18 70. Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in
19 causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and the California subclass.

20 71. Plaintiff and the California subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result
21 of Defendant’s conduct because (a) they would not have purchased SelectBlinds Products if they
22 had known the truth, and/or (b) would have paid less for them.

23 ***Section 17500 et. seq.***

24 72. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

25 73. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and the California
26 subclass.

27 74. Defendant has violated Section 17500 of the Business and Professions Code.
28

76. Defendant did this by advertising limited-time offers that were not actually limited in time, false reference prices, and false discounts regarding its products.

77. Defendant's representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive, Plaintiff and
reasonable consumers. Defendant knew, or should have known through the exercise of
reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and misleading.

78. Defendant's misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on the statements when purchasing SelectBlinds Products. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision.

79. In addition, class-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendant's misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the SelectBlinds Products.

80. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and the California subclass.

81. Plaintiff and the California subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct because (a) they would not have purchased SelectBlinds Products if they had known the truth, and/or (b) they overpaid for the Products due to the misrepresentation.

Second Cause of Action:

(by Plaintiff and the California subclass)

3 83. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and the California
4 subclass.

84. Plaintiff and the California subclass are “consumers,” as the term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d).

85. Plaintiff and the California subclass have engaged in “transactions” with Defendant as that term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(c).

1 86. The conduct alleged in this Complaint constitutes unfair methods of competition
2 and unfair and deceptive acts and practices for the purpose of the CLRA, and the conduct was
3 undertaken by Defendant in transactions intended to result in, and which did result in, the sale of
4 goods to consumers.

5 87. As alleged more fully above, Defendant made and disseminated untrue and
6 misleading statements of facts in its advertisements to California subclass members. Defendant
7 did this by advertising limited-time offers that were not limited in time, using fake regular prices,
8 and advertising fake discounts.

9 88. Defendant violated, and continues to violate, Section 1770(a)(13) of the
10 California Civil Code by making false or misleading statements of fact concerning reasons for,
11 existence of, or amounts of, price reductions on its website. Defendant has violated Section
12 1770(a)(13) by (1) misrepresenting the regular price of products on its website, (2) advertising
13 discounts and savings that are exaggerated or nonexistent, (3) misrepresenting that the discounts
14 and savings on its website are available only for a limited time, when in fact they are not, and (4)
15 misrepresenting that the discounts and savings are unusually large, when in fact they are
16 regularly available.

17 89. Defendant violated, and continues to violate, Section 1770(a)(5) of the California
18 Civil Code by representing that products offered for sale on its website have characteristics or
19 benefits that they do not have. Defendant represents that the value of its products is greater than
20 it actually is by advertising inflated regular prices and fake discounts for products.

21 90. Defendant violated, and continues to violate, Section 1770(a)(9) of the California
22 Civil Code. Defendant violates this by advertising its products as being offered at a discount,
23 when in fact Defendant does not intend to sell the products at a discount.

24 91. Defendant's representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive, Plaintiff and
25 reasonable consumers. Defendant knew, or should have known through the exercise of
26 reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and misleading.

92. Defendant's misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing SelectBlinds Products. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision.

93. In addition, class-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendant's misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the SelectBlinds Products.

94. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and the California subclass.

95. Plaintiff and the California subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct because (a) they would not have purchased SelectBlinds Products if they had known that the discounts, regular prices, and/or the limited-time offer were not real, and/or (b) they would have paid less for the products.

96. Accordingly, pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780(a)(2), Mr. Barr, on behalf of himself and all other members of the California subclass, seeks injunctive relief.

97. CLRA § 1782 NOTICE. On September 29, 2022, a CLRA demand letter was sent to Defendant's Arizona headquarters via certified mail (return receipt requested), that provided notice of Defendant's violations of the CLRA and demanded that Defendant correct the unlawful, unfair, false and/or deceptive practices alleged here. Defendant does not have a California headquarters. If Defendant does not fully correct the problem for Plaintiff and for each member of the California subclass within 30 days of receipt, Plaintiff and the California subclass will seek all monetary relief allowed under the CLRA.

98. A CLRA venue declaration is attached.

Third Cause of Action:

Violation of California's Unfair Competition Law

(by Plaintiff and the California subclass)

99. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

100. Defendant has violated California's Unfair Competition Law (UCL) by engaging in unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair conduct (i.e., violating each of the three prongs of the UCL).

1 ***The Unlawful Prong***

2 101. Defendant engaged in unlawful conduct by violating the CLRA and FAL, as
3 alleged above and incorporated here.

4 ***The Deceptive Prong***

5 102. As alleged in detail above, Defendant's representations that its products were on
6 sale, that the sale was limited in time, that the products had a specific regular price, and that the
7 customers were receiving discounts were false and misleading.

8 103. Defendant's representations were misleading to Plaintiff and other reasonable
9 consumers.

10 104. Plaintiff relied upon Defendant's misleading representations and omissions, as
11 detailed above.

12 ***The Unfair Prong***

13 105. As alleged in detail above, Defendant committed "unfair" acts by falsely
14 advertising that its products were on sale, that the sale was limited in time, that the products had
15 a specific regular price, and that the customers were receiving discounts.

16 106. Defendant violated established public policy by violating the CLRA and FAL, as
17 alleged above and incorporated here. The unfairness of this practice is tethered to a legislatively
18 declared policy (that of the CLRA and FAL).

19 107. The harm to Plaintiff and the California subclass greatly outweighs the public
20 utility of Defendant's conduct. There is no public utility to misrepresenting the price of a
21 consumer product. This injury was not outweighed by any countervailing benefits to consumers
22 or competition. Misleading consumer products only injure healthy competition and harm
23 consumers.

24 108. Plaintiff and the California subclass could not have reasonably avoided this
25 injury. As alleged above, Defendant's representations were deceptive to reasonable consumers
26 like Plaintiff.

27 109. Defendant's conduct, as alleged above, was immoral, unethical, oppressive,
28 unscrupulous, and substantially injurious to consumers.

* * *

110. For all prongs, Defendant's representations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when SelectBlinds' products. Defendant's representations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision.

111. In addition, class-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendant's representations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the SelectBlinds products.

112. Defendant's representations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and the class members.

113. Plaintiff and the California subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the SelectBlinds Products if they had known that they were not discounted, and/or (b) they overpaid for the Products because the Products are sold at the regular price and not at a discount.

Fourth Cause of Action:

Breach of Contract

(by Plaintiff and the Nationwide class)

114. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

115. Plaintiff and the Nationwide class members entered into contracts with SelectBlinds when they placed orders to purchase products on SelectBlinds' website. These contracts were memorialized in invoices that were sent to purchasers.

116. The contracts provided that Plaintiff and class members would pay SelectBlinds for the products ordered.

117. The contracts further required that SelectBlinds provide Plaintiff and class members with products that have a market value equal to the regular prices displayed in the invoice. They also required that SelectBlinds provide Plaintiff and class members with the discount listed in the invoice. These were specific and material terms of the contract.

118. The specific discounts were a specific and material term of each contract, and were displayed to Plaintiff and class members at the time they placed their orders. The discounts

1 were further memorialized in the order confirmations that SelectBlinds emailed to customers
2 after they had placed their orders.

3 119. Plaintiff and the Nationwide class members paid SelectBlinds for the products
4 they ordered, and satisfied all other conditions of their contracts.

5 120. SelectBlinds breached the contracts with Plaintiff and class members by failing to
6 provide products that had a market value equal to the regular price displayed on its website, and
7 by failing to provide the promised discount. SelectBlinds instead charged Plaintiff and class
8 members the full market price of the products they ordered. SelectBlinds did not provide the
9 discount that it had promised.

10 121. As a direct and proximate result of SelectBlinds' breaches, Plaintiff and the
11 Nationwide class members were deprived of the benefit of their bargained-for exchange, and
12 have suffered damages in an amount to be established at trial.

13 **Fifth Cause of Action:**

14 **Breach of Express Warranty**

15 **(by Plaintiff and the Nationwide class)**

16 122. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

17 123. Plaintiff brings this count individually and for the Nationwide class.


18 124. Defendant, as the designer, manufacturer, marketer, distributor, supplier, and/or
19 seller of the SelectBlinds Products, issued material, written warranties by advertising that the
20 Products had a market value equal to the regular price displayed on SelectBlinds' website. This
21 was an affirmation of fact about the products (i.e., a representation about the market value) and a
22 promise relating to the goods.

23 125. This warranty was part of the basis of the bargain and Plaintiff and the
24 Nationwide class members of the class relied on this warranty.

25 126. In fact, the SelectBlinds Products did not have the stated market value. Thus, the
26 warranty was breached.

27 127. Plaintiff provided Defendant with notice of this breach of warranty, by mailing a
28 notice letter to Defendant's headquarters, on September 21, 2022.

1 Dated: October 3, 2022

2 By. 

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